



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. 10/790,027 Confirmation No. 9737  
Applicant John A. Giordano *et al.*  
Filed 2 March 2004  
TC/Art Unit 1616  
Examiner F.I. Choi  
  
Docket No. 48508-00014  
Customer No. 23767

*DO NOT  
ENTER  
STP/PAS*

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the issues raised by the Examiner in the Office Action mailed 11 August 2004, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending rejections and reexamination of the present application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.

Conclusion begins on page 12 of this paper.